(a) what are the grounds on which the Planning Commission bases its optimistic estimate of export growth rate rising to 13.6 per cent;

(b) whether it is much lower than the Government's expectation; and

(c) if so, whether the deficit would be met by further borrowing from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The estimate of export growth for the Eighth Plan is based partly on past experience and partly on the export growth required to keep the current account deficit at manageable levels.

(b) The Government expects exports to grow more or less as projected.

(c) Question does not arise.

**Position of Tamil Nadu in Regard to Removal of Regional imbalance**

2630. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what was the position of Tamil Nadu in regard to removal of regional imbalances compared to other States at the end of Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to remove regional imbalances during Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) As per the quick estimates, at the end of the 7th Plan (1989-90), the per capita net State Domestic product of Tamil Nadu at constant (1980-81) prices was slightly lower than the national average. In the 8th Plan, the growth strategies envisaged for various sectors and particularly for the employment, agriculture and industrial sectors aim at reducing regional imbalances.

The responsibility for development of a particular region rests primarily with the State Government concerned. In this, the Central Government helps the States, including Tamil Nadu, through the mechanism of transfer of resources under the modified formula, previously known as 'Gadgil formula', Special Area Programmes and devolution of non-plan resources by the Finance Commission.

Removal of regional imbalances is an essential objective of the planning process. However, implementation of this objective is tempered by certain inherent, historic and other characterstics of region such as differences in resource endowment, disparties in availability of infrastructural facilities physiographic factors and geographical conditions.

**The concept of Agro-climatic zone Planning**

2631. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any progress in imbibing the concept of agro-climate zone planning in our planning system particularly in the matter of planning for rural development;

(b) if so, how long we have gone in this respect in case of the Eighth Five Year Plan and what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not embarking on this aspect and by when it is likely to be made an integral part of our planning system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) The project for agricultural planning based on Agro-Climate Regions was launched in June, 1988 with the setting up of 15 Zonal Planning Teams one for each of the identified agro-climatic regions. So far three major phases of this project have been completed:

(i) preparation of zonal profile and strategy for 15 broad agro-climatic zones;

(ii) Preparation of indicative State Plans disaggregated by agro-climatic sub-regions (87 sub-regions for the country as a whole), incorporating profiles, priorities and programmes covering land and water resources development, crop husbandry, development of allied agriculture sector, etc.;

(iii) Extension of Agro-climatic Regional Planning Project (ACRP) to district/sub district planning by way of providing technical inputs to the decentralised planning process on subjects of agro-climatic planning relevance. The work has been carried out/in progress in 33 selected districts covering major agro-climatic and institutional situations.

An implementation plan on experimental basis for selected projects/programmes among the selected districts of agro-climatic relevance is proposed. Agro-climatic Regional Planning Project has already been incorporated into Eighth Five Year Plan.

(c) Does not arise.

**योजना प्रक्रिया में परिवर्तनों के लिए सुझाव**

2632. **मौलाना अबदुल्ला खान आजमी**: क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले दो वर्षों और चालू वर्ष के दौरान किन-किन राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों ने योजना प्रक्रिया में परिवर्तन/संशोधन करने के लिए सुझाव दिए हैं;

(ख) इन सुझावों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन पर अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है;

(घ) क्या इस संबंध में सरकार के विचाराधीन कोई योजना है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

**योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री और गैर-पारम्परिक ऊर्जा स्रोत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखराम)** : (क) से (ङ) राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्री समय-समय पर अधिकांशतः राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद में विचार-विमर्श के दौरान आयोजना प्रक्रिया एवं संबंधित मामलों में परिवर्तन संबंधी सुझाव देते रहते हैं। राष्ट्रीय विकास परिषद की हाल ही की बैठक में इस संबंध में व्यक्त किए गए विचार निम्नानुसार है :-

(क) आर्थिक नीति योजना तैयारी आदि महत्वपूर्ण मामलों पर राज्यों से और अधिक विचार-विमर्श। इस प्रस्ताव में अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ योजना आयोग ढांचे में राज्य के मुख्य मंत्रियों की भागीदारी शामिल है।

(ख) सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रक योजना में राज्यों के लिए बड़ा हिस्सा।